



ST. MARY GAZETTE. **EXTRA.**

ST. MARY, IOWA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1854.

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTIONS IN REGARD TO INDIAN TERRITORY.

Col. James M. Gatewood reached this place this morning from St. Louis, on his way to the Agency. We gather from him the following intelligence, through the St. Joseph Cycle, which is of great importance to the citizens of the West:

He received, at St. Louis, orders from Washington to assemble, as soon as practicable, the Omahas, Otoes, Missouries, Pawnees and their half breeds, including the Great Platte River Valley, for the purpose of ascertaining the terms upon which they will sell, and the amount of Territory they are willing to dispose of; and to get the several tribes to give certain Chiefs plenary powers to repair at once to Washington for the purpose of concluding a treaty. Should Col. Gatewood succeed, of which he has no doubt, in gaining the consent of the several named tribes to sell he will take the Chiefs on with him to

Washington for the purpose of concluding a treaty.

The district of country embraced in this proposition to buy is about one half of the reserved lands included within the bounds of Nebraska Territory. It is all of that country fronting on the Missouri, opposite to Iowa and that part of the State of Missouri, above the Great Nemaha.

These instructions from the government are highly important, and Col. Gatewood will use every effort to carry them out forthwith, and of his success he has no doubt. If successful, Nebraska may yet be ready for settlement by mid-summer.

Col. Gatewood left this morning, and will hold councils with the above named tribes immediately, with a view of repairing to Washington City as early in February as practicable. He is an energetic man and will accomplish his mission as soon as any gentleman that could have been chosen.